

## Safety Advisory Committee

December 4, 2015

1:30 – 2:00 PM

### Minutes

Committee Member	Representing	Present
V. Potapenko, M. O. Leimer, J. Willen	Human Resources Advisors	
Blodgett, Paul M.	Environment, Health and Safety Division	X
Bluhm, Hendrik	Chemical Sciences Division	X
Broughton, Jeff	Computing Sciences Directorate	
Chernowski, John	Facilities Division	X
Christensen, John N.	Earth Sciences Division	X
Dickerhoff, Darryl	Energy Technologies Area	X
Franaszek, Stephen	Genomics Division	X
Greiner, Leo	Nuclear Science Division	
Haber, Carl	Physics Division	X
Martin, Michael C.	Advanced Light Source Division	
MacGowan, Betsy	Information Technology Division	X
Ravani, Shraddha	Life Sciences Division	
Sauter, Nicholas	Physical Biosciences Division	
Schmid, Andreas	Materials Sciences Division	X
Seidl, Peter	Accelerator Technology and Applied Physics Division; SAC Chair	X
Thomas, Patricia M.	Safety Advisory Committee Secretary	X
von der Lippe, Henrik	Engineering Division	

**Others Present:** Michael Carr, Julie Drotz, Mike Kritscher, Quang Le, Larry McLouth, Martin Neitzel, Andrew Peterson, Jack Salazar, Scott Taylor, Aaron Ward, Bill Wells, Jennifer Willen

### Comments from the Chair – Peter Seidl

**SAC Charter** – The Safety Advisory Committee charter was last updated in 2009. Draft revisions have been submitted to Jim Floyd and Glenn Kubiak for review. The main change is to update the description of reviews to reflect current practices. “MESH” has been changed to “Peer Reviews” and the frequency has been changed to 2 reviews per year, with scope to be determined in consultation with Associate Laboratory Directors. When approved, the updated charter will be posted on the SAC website.

**Peer Reviews** -- Ramamoorthy Ramesh is in the process of directing internal assessments of Energy Technologies Area. He will discuss possible review topics with Peter Seidl next month. Jay Keasling and Peter Seidl are also continuing to discuss possible review topics for Life Sciences. For the 2015 Chemical Sciences review, Scott Taylor has finished the reactive chemicals portion. Darryl Dickerhoff and Henrik von der Lippe will be working on the electrical safety portion over the next several weeks.

### **EHS Pipeline – Bill Wells**

<b>Revision Type</b>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Program/Policy</b>	<b>Significance</b>	<b>Status</b>
Aviation Safety Policy -- New	RPM	Aviation	D	Draft completed. Ready for posting pending Engineering Div review.
Confined Spaces Program -- Major Revision	ESH Manual	Confined Spaces	TBD	Editing complete. Changes reflect current practice. SME works closely with users.
Fall Protection Program Major Revision	ESH Manual	Fall Protection Program	C	Editing complete. Changes reflect current practice. SME works closely with users.
Pressure Safety – major revision	RPM, ESH Manual	Pressure Safety	C	Major revision; final input from stakeholders, to be presented to SAC in Feb 2016.
ORPS & NTS Reporting Quick Guide	RPM	ES&H – Occurrence Rep.; RPM-PAAA Compliance	D	Approved and ready for posting.
Laser Safety Program -- Major Revision	ESH Manual	Laser Safety Program	C	Laser safety committee has provided input and recommendations; SME is drafting.

Change to Radiation Safety Program – Conversion to Rad Con Manual format	RPM/ESH Manual/Rad Con Manual	Occupational Radiation Safety	D	Program content limited; used as a pass-through to new Rad Con Manual. Rad Con Manual reviewed and approved through RSC and EHS. Program in queue for editing. No new requirements. Completed and posted 11/2015
Elevated Work Surfaces -- Major Revision	ESH Manual	Elevated Work Surfaces Program	C	Editing complete. Changes reflect current practice. SME working closely with users.
Link Repairs	EHS Manual	General EHS Policy; sJHA Program	D	Identified and completed
Construction Safety (Chp 10) HTML conversion from pdf placemaker	EHS Manual	Construction Safety	D	Conversion completed

- There was no Requirements Management Committee meeting in December due to limited activity for action.
- The Aviation policy and ORPS changes are expected to be finished by the end of December 2015.
- Elevated work surfaces/fall protection and confined spaces are expected to be posted in January or February 2016.
- The Pressure Safety changes are being written. SAC should expect a presentation in February 2016.
- There will be new Chemical Hygiene changes resulting from the reactive chemicals review.

## **Radiation Safety Update – Quang Le**

Paul Alivisatos worked with EHS Radiation Protection to hold a Town Hall meeting on September 11 with Principal Investigators who have Radiological Work Authorizations (RWAs) to discuss recent radiation safety incidents. There are about 112 PIs who have RWAs. Since the meeting, Health Physicists have met with all the PIs. The Radiation Protection Group is reviewing the input from the PIs. There are some ongoing incident investigations that will result in corrective actions. The end of March 2016 is the deadline for developing a Corrective Action Plan for the recurring radiological issues.

John Christensen commented that the interviews with PIs were useful. He was asked whether the RWA process can be streamlined and more useful.

DOE Office of Enforcement (OE) visited LBNL on November 3 and toured LBNL areas involved in incidents. DOE and LBNL agree that reporting incidents and promptly taking corrective action is the right thing to do. We want people to continue to self-report problems. DOE OE sees LBNL as being in the “healthy” end of the enforcement scale. No enforcement letter will be issued at this time.

Martin Neitzel asked whether new PIs will be interviewed. There should be discussions whenever the PI for an RWA changes. The focus of the interviews was to review the scope of existing RWAs and compare them with anticipated research needs. Radiation Protection is looking at the topic of PI qualifications. Peer scientist assistance may be needed for PIs with limited experience in RWAs. They are also looking at whether the people assigned as PIs have the time available to carry out the responsibilities defined in their RWAs.

## **Preliminary Feedback from Fire and Chemical Safety Audit – Mike Carr**

DOE conducted an assessment of chemical safety and implementation of NFPA 45 in laboratories during the week of November 15 – 20. There were 8 assessors, and 10 buildings were visited. The overall impressions were good, but there were some non-compliance issues in most locations, related to seismic safety, housekeeping, and/or chemical storage. The most common findings were related to:

- Labeling and storage in refrigerators and freezers;
- Storage of flammables with oxidizers;
- Storage of compressed gases with flammable materials;
- Lack of approved storage cabinets for flammables;
- Storage of chemicals on counter tops;
- Storage of time-sensitive chemicals (ethers) longer than 1 year;
- Lack of knowledge of changes in the Hazard Communication standard.

The assessors looked at Activities in Work Planning and Control and Chemical Management System inventories and compared the information with what they observed in the labs. There will be some recommendations for improving WPC. The assessment team is working on their report, which may be completed before the winter break. They looked at how the requirements are being implemented. Some NFPA requirements are not reflected in the EHS manual or WPC. Bill Wells commented that EHS performed a gap analysis and also identified requirements that are not specifically mentioned.

The most common seismic safety finding was test equipment on unsecured tables.

Mary Gross requested the assessment in response to recent chemical safety incidents at LBNL. A Corrective Action Plan is required. Jack Salazar commented that EHS will develop a response to the assessment findings. EHS held a forum for researchers who work with reactive chemicals.

The DOE assessment team plans to return for a second review in 6-8 months. They will likely look at some different lab spaces.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM  
Respectfully submitted, Patricia M. Thomas, SAC Secretary